

Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service
Fiscal Year 2006
1st Quarter Report

The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service (ICVS) convened August 15th and 16th for a new commissioner orientation and our FY'06 strategic planning retreat where a unified state plan was developed for volunteer service in Iowa. In addition, final grant decisions were made and awarded for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and AmeriCorps State* programs in Iowa, below are a summary of awards. In addition a status report for the Iowa Veterans Identification Project is attached.

AmeriCorps

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Amount Rec.</u>	<u># AmeriCorps Members</u>
Partners in Learning (Dubuque)	\$194,547.00	49
R.E.A.C.H. – (statewide)	\$139,540.00	20
Keepers of the Land (DNR – statewide)	\$384,400.00	47
Iowa Legal Aid (statewide)	\$124,001.00	10
American Red Cross (statewide)	\$117,474.00	12
Governor's Afterschool Initiative (statewide)	Carry over grant	12
Project Unite (Storm Lake)	\$27,180.00	18
Habit For Humanity (statewide)	\$167,390.00	18
Youth Connections (Johnson County)	\$116,319.00	20
State of Promise AmeriCorps (Statewide)	\$147,561.00	12
Eastern Iowa Conservation Alliance (Eastern IA)	Carry over grant	18
United Neighbors (Scott County)	\$138,005.00	37
Upper Explorerland (N.E. IA)	\$123,670.00	10
City of Des Moines AmeriCorps (Polk)	\$4,000.00	8
<u>Iowa Lakes Community College (N.W. IA)</u>	<u>\$151,200.00</u>	<u>44</u>
Totals	\$1,835,287.00	335

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

Sponsor	County(s)	RSVP Award	IVIP Award	Tot. Award
Decorah Public Library	Winneshiek	\$13,315.00	\$0.00	\$13,315.00
City of Fort Madison	North Lee	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Covenant Medical Center	Black Hawk, Fayette	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
The Center for Siouland	Woodbury	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
St. Lukes Hospital	Linn	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Elder Services	Johnson, Iowa, Muscatine	\$28,994.00	\$14,500.00	\$43,494.00
RSVP of Carroll County	Carroll	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Waldorf College	C.G.; Hancock; Winn. Worth	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
West. IL Area Agency on Aging	Scott (IA); Rock Island (IL)	\$4,619.00	\$14,500.00	\$19,119.00
Good Connections	Boone	\$10,015.00	\$0.00	\$10,015.00

Clarinda Foundation	Page; Taylor; Montgomery	\$4,621.00	\$0.00	\$4,621.00
Gateway United Way	Clinton	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Loess Hills American Red Cross	Mills; Pottawattamie	\$14,795.00	\$0.00	\$14,795.00
City of Fort Dodge	Webster	\$14,795.00	\$0.00	\$14,795.00
f	Story; Marshall	\$12,982.00	\$0.00	\$12,982.00
Finley Hospital	Dubuque	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Ottumwa Chamber of Comm.	Monroe; Wapello	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
ISU Extension, Jasper County	Jasper	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Henry County Health Center	Henry	\$10,015.00	\$0.00	\$10,015.00
Iowa Lakes Comm. College	Clay, Dickin, Emmet, Koss. Palo Alto	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Hamilton County Supervisors	Hamilton; Wright	\$4,619.00	\$0.00	\$4,619.00
Des Moines Area United Way	Dallas; Polk; Warren	\$4,619.00	\$21,000.00	\$25,619.00
TOTAL		\$174,198.00	\$50,000.00	\$224,198.00

Iowa Veterans Identification Project (IVIP)

Summary

IVIP is an enhancement of the functions of the state and (relevant) county commissions of Veterans affairs. Our shared success in helping more wartime veterans and surviving spouses maintain their ability to pay privately for senior living care depends on this collaboration. The program affords families a choice as members enter their post retirement years by accessing federal VA pension and health benefits. In this way, the VA pension is an attractive alternative to families that otherwise might have to rely on Medicaid to pay for nursing home care. Significant positive results for the State budget can be expected as the burden on Medicaid is lessened and more residents are able to pay privately for their care for longer periods of time.

Progress

In the past seven months, IVIP has helped over four hundred nursing home residents determine their eligibility for federal VA pension and health benefits. Volunteers are still in the process of helping some of those residents file pension claims and/or apply for health benefits. So far, IVIP volunteers have completed and filed a total of 71 pension claims and applications for health benefits. The Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs estimates there about 1,095 senior living community residents in the four counties who may potentially be able to receive these types of VA benefits.

Financial Impact

The average monthly federal VA pension benefit is \$864 and the average monthly federal VA benefit for health services is \$390, according to the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs. Based on the estimate that IVIP volunteers will help nursing home residents file 120 pension claims and 60 applications for health benefits during FY '06, the potential financial gain over a 12-month period to the state if 75 percent of the claims are successful amounts to \$1,143,720. Given the General Fund appropriation of \$50,000, the State would see a return of \$22.87 for each dollar appropriated. Since successful claims are paid out over the lifetime of the claimant, the return on investment increases dramatically over time. For example, the State would see a return of \$114 for each dollar appropriated in FY '06 on IVIP based on an estimated \$5,718,600 in federal VA benefits paid out to Iowa seniors over a five-year period.